

AFGHANISTAN



FUSION CELL

USCENTCOM

OPERATION MAGISTRAL

AFGHANISTAN

## TABLE OF CONTENTS (U)

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FOREWORD	ii
INTRODUCTION	1
GEOGRAPHY	3
CULTURE	4
SITUATION	8
THE ROAD	10
THE PLAN	12
THE OPERATION	15
TACTICS	22
MEDIA	25
WHY IT HAPPENED	26
CONCLUSIONS	27
ATTACHMENTS 1-6	

## FOREWORD (U)

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(U) Much of the information dealing with Afghan culture and Mujahedin tactics came from an article by Colonel Ali Jalali, Afghanistan armed forces, titled "The Soviet Military Operation in Afghanistan and the Role of Light and Heavy Forces at the Tactical and Operational Level."

*William S. Easterling*  
WILLIAM S. EASTERLING  
LTC USA  
Chief, Fusion Cell





## GEOGRAPHY (U)

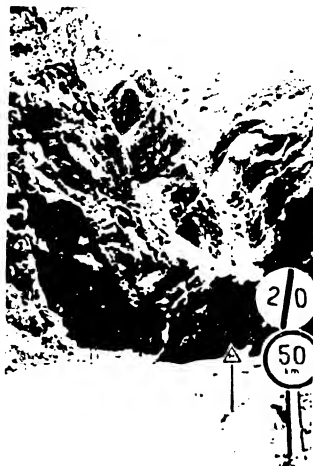
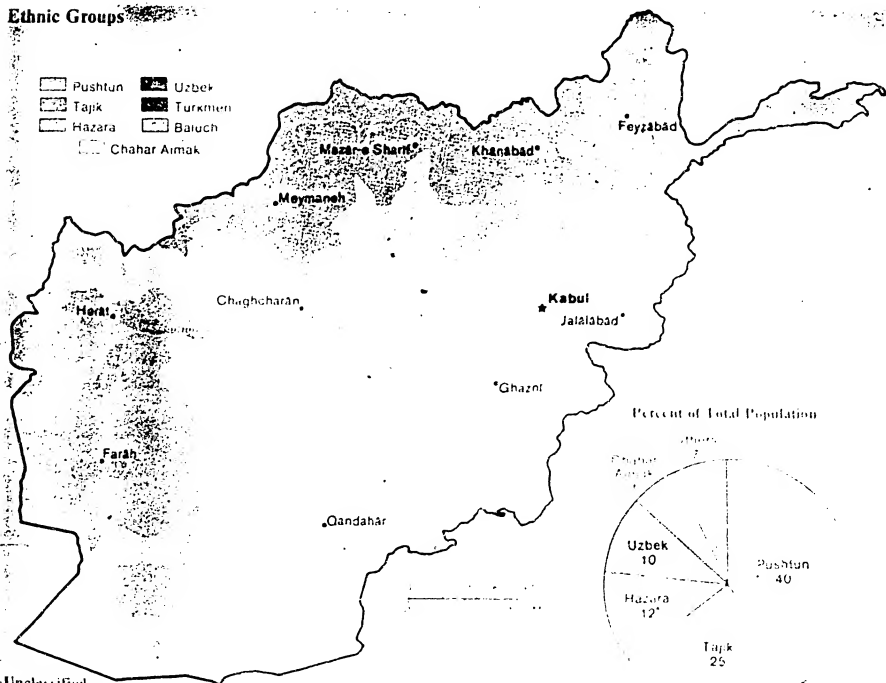
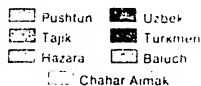


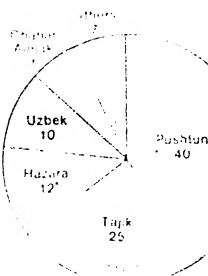
Figure 3 - Afghanistan is a country with harsh terrain and varied climatic conditions (U)

# CULTURE (U)

## Ethnic Groups



Percent of Total Population



Unclassified

800772/2.16.14; 2 95



**Figure 5 - Mujahedin children are trained to be marksmen at a young age. Children raised during the war will grow up to be deadly guerilla fighters. (U)**





**Yunis Khalis**



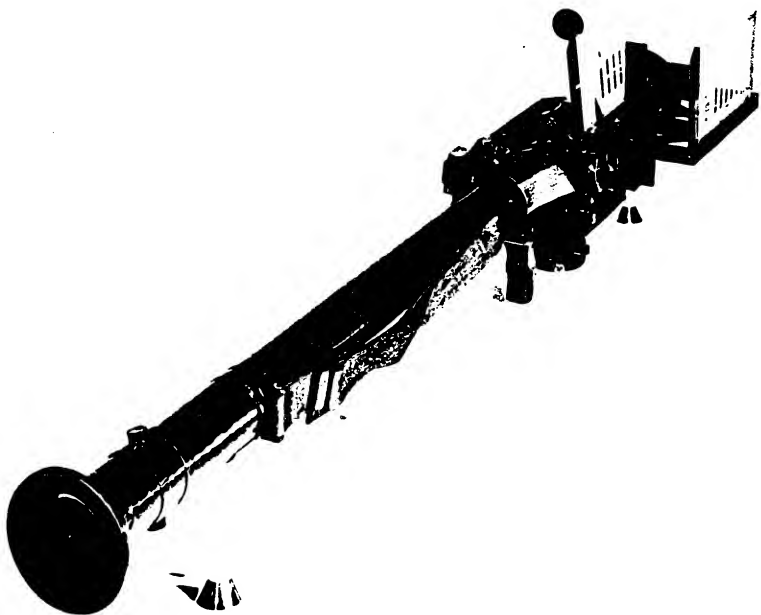
**Jalaluddin Haqqani**

**Figure 6 (U)**

The map shows the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region in Pakistan, with its international and provincial boundaries. Key features include:

- Geographical Features:** The Khyber Pass, Hindu Kush mountains, and the Khyber River are visible.
- Major Cities:** Peshawar, Mardan, Chitral, and Bannu are marked.
- Provincial and International Boundaries:** The map shows the borders of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with FATA, Punjab, and Balochistan, as well as the international border with Afghanistan.
- Shaded Area:** A large area in the center is shaded with diagonal lines, representing the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.
- Labels:** The map is labeled with various codes (KE, LE, YE, KD, LD) and numbers (43, 1) in the corners.

7



**Figure 8 - U.S. STINGER missile (U)**

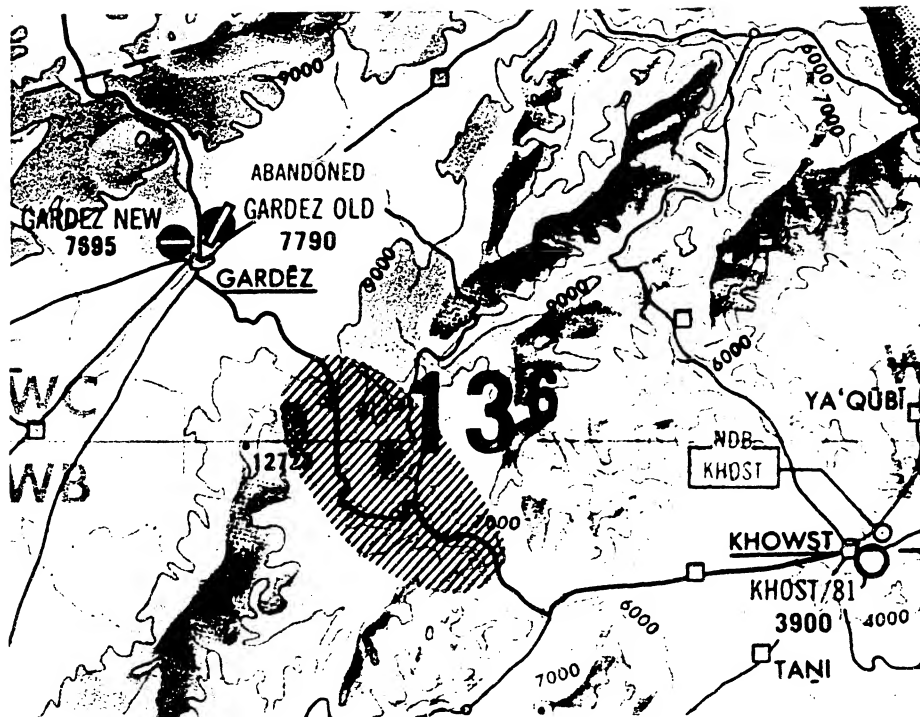


Figure 9 - Tribal lands along the Gardeyz to Khowst road (U)

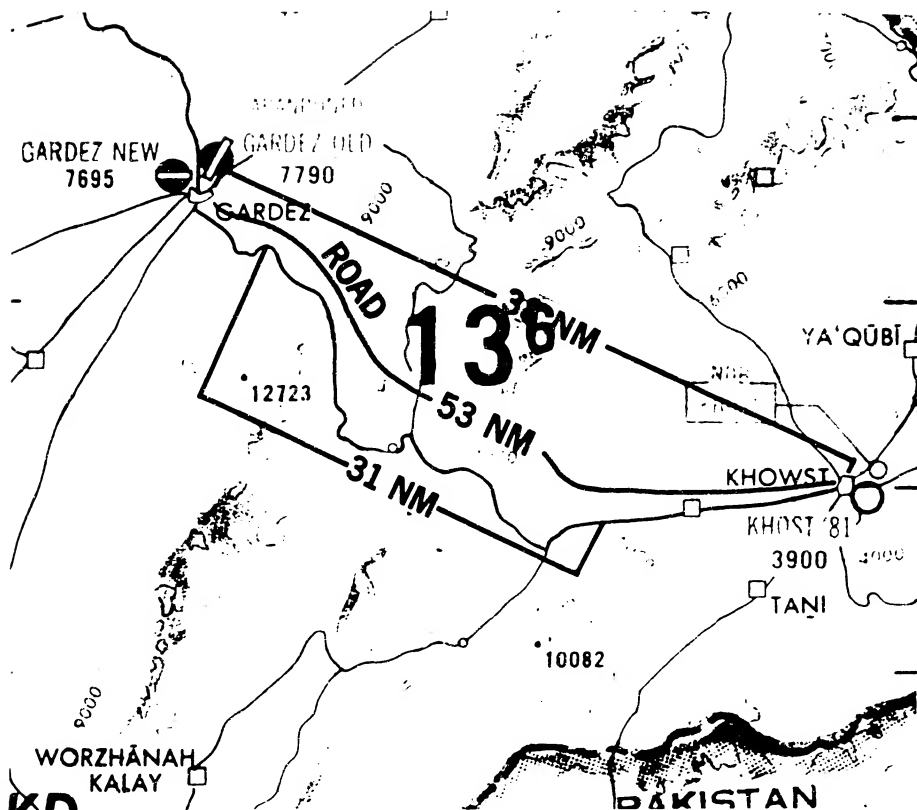


Figure 10 - Gardeyz to Khowst road (U)

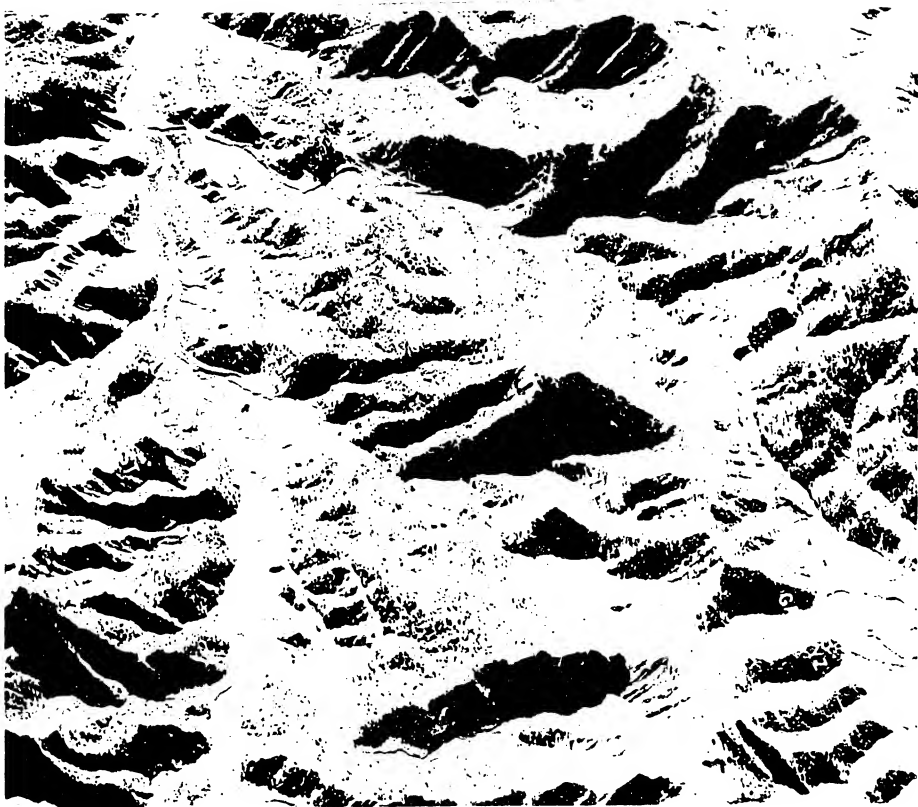


Figure 11 - Sate Kandaw Pass (U)

THE PLAN (U)

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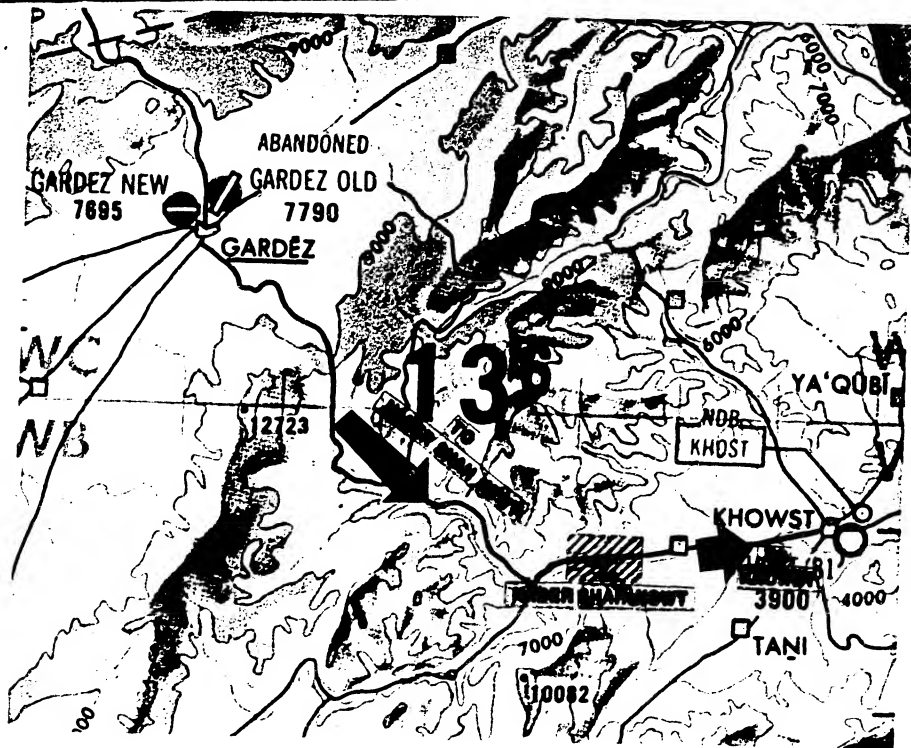


Figure 12 - The Plan (U)





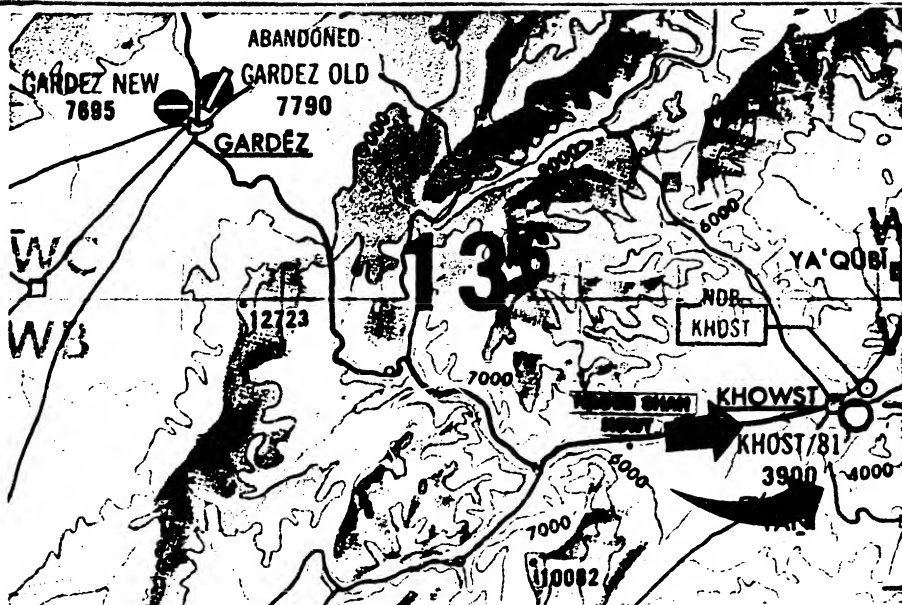


Figure 14 - The Second Stage (U)

### THE OPERATION (U)

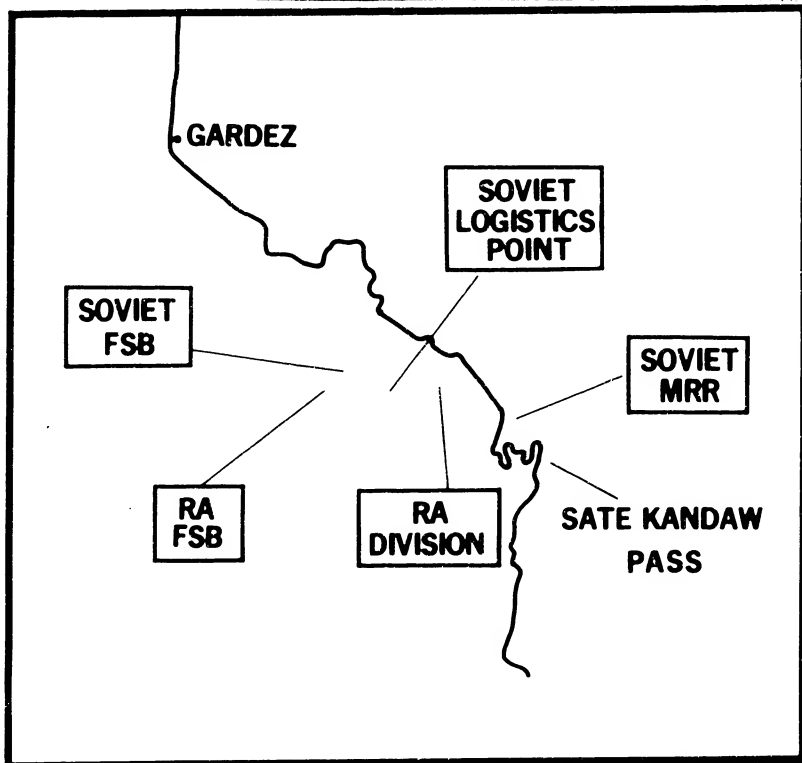


Figure 15 - The Last Week of November (U)

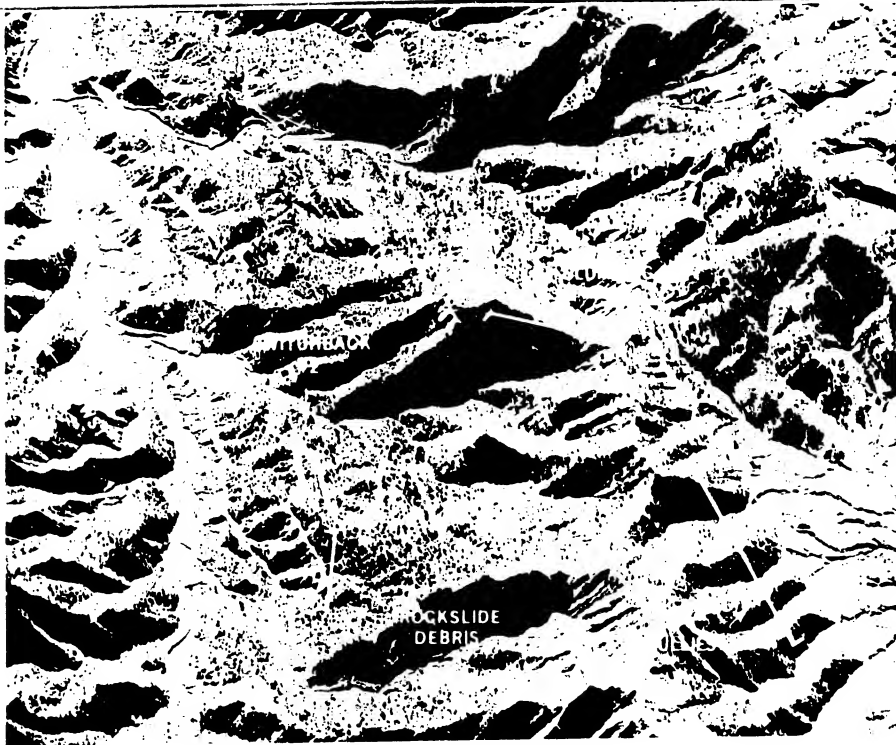


Figure 16 - Sate Kandaw Pass (U)

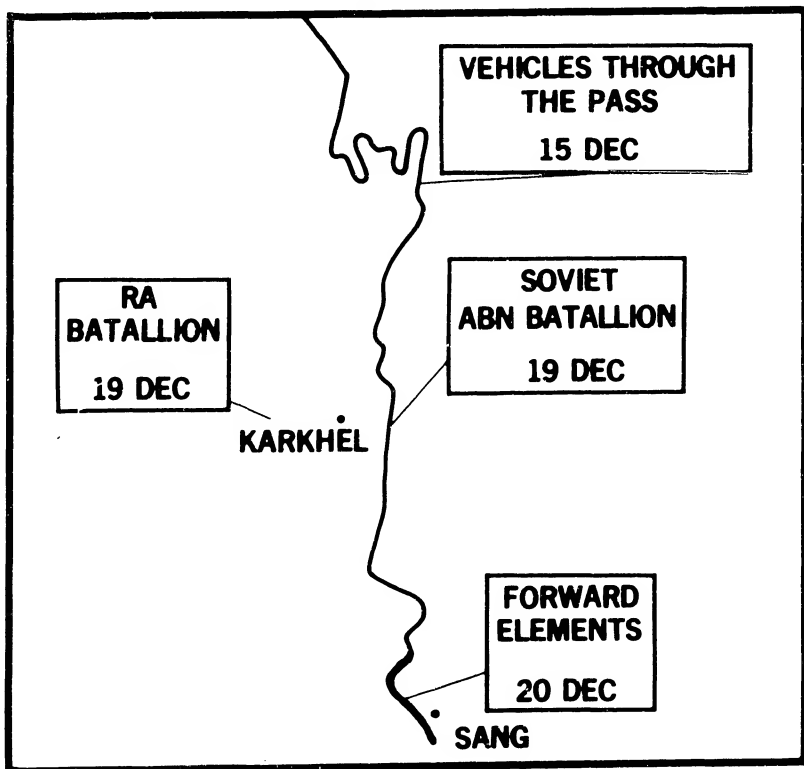


Figure 17 - Positions on 20 December (U)

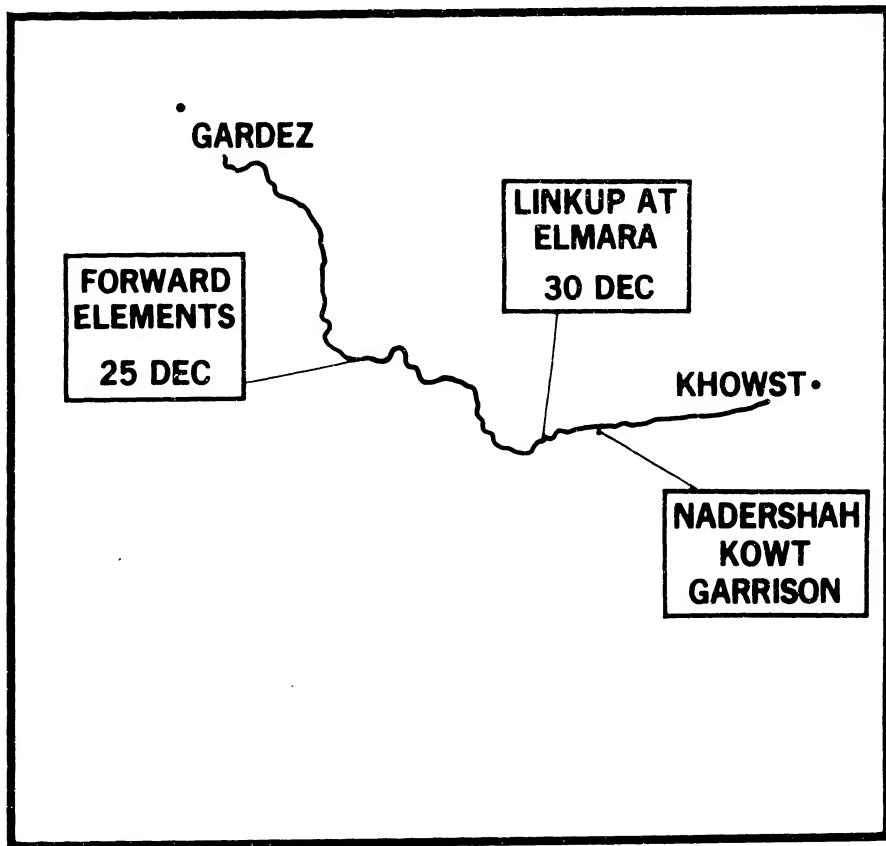


Figure 18 - Positions on 30 December (U)

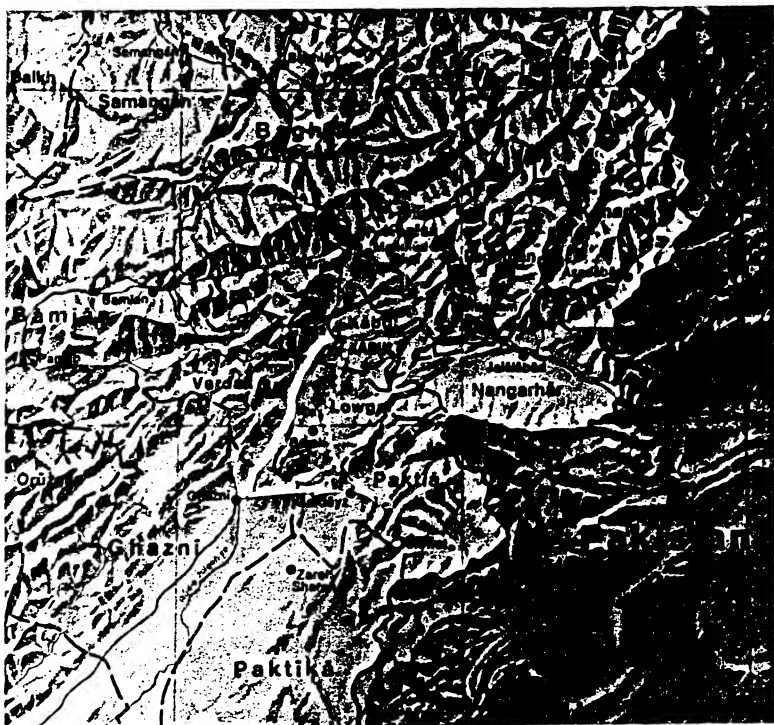


Figure 19 - Alternate Convoy Route through Ghazni (U)



**Figure 20 - Introduction of the STINGER missile forced the Soviets to revise their air tactics (U)**

(U) The Soviet news agency TASS reported the occurrence of Soviet interception of Mujahedin radio signals. This makes probable that some interception of Mujahedin radio signals occurred, revealing tactical information to the Soviets and RA about rebel locations, intended movements, fire support, etc. (Figure 21).



**Figure 21 - Mujahedin radio use (U)**





**Figure 22 - Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev  
called Afghanistan a "Bleeding Wound" (U)**